



October 2018

2018 Home Heating Credit

The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) doesn't want you to miss your chance to receive the Home Heating Credit (HHC) from the state of Michigan! The HHC can help pay your winter heating bills and is funded by the federal Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). If you use a large portion of your monthly income to pay heating costs, you may be eligible for the HHC for the 2018 tax year.

Who can apply?

Eligible customers must meet the following guidelines:

- homestead is in Michigan,
- own or rent your home (including a rented apartment or mobile home on a lot in a mobile home park) where you live, and
- income is within the limits listed in the chart below or you qualify based on alternate guidelines including household income, exemptions, and heating costs. Check the HHC form (MI-1040CR-7 for more information).

Income Guidelines	
Exemptions	Income Ceiling
0-1	\$13,357
2	\$18,129
3	\$22,871
4	\$27,614
5	\$32,386
6	\$37,129
Add \$4,743 for each additional exemption	

How to apply?

You can apply for the HHC by filling out form MI-1040CR-7 for 2018. You do not have to file a Michigan tax return to apply for the HHC. There are many ways to get an HHC form:

- The Michigan Department of Treasury website, www.michigan.gov/treasury. Enter "Home Heating Credit" in the search box.
- By calling the Department of Treasury at 517-636-4486 to receive a copy.
- Paper copies of the forms are also available at most public libraries, Northern Michigan post offices, Department of Health and Human Services offices, and other locations where income tax forms are available.
- For hearing or speech impaired, TTY is available through the Michigan Relay Center, 711.
- Some utility companies have forms available and personnel who can help with the form. Call your company to see if they can assist.
- Call 211 to find local agencies that provide assistance completing tax forms.

* Customers who qualify for the HHC are also eligible for the Winter Protection Plan. Contact your local utility for more information.

When to apply?

File your HHC form as soon as you know your household income for 2018.

THE DEADLINE FOR FILING THE FORM IS SEPTEMBER 30 OF EACH YEAR.

Before sending in your form, check to make sure it is complete, accurate, and has been signed. Keep a copy of the number of exemptions you are claiming, the date you filed, and the amount of the credit to use in verifying the status of your application with the Department of Treasury.

If you have trouble paying your heating bills before you receive the credit or receive a shut-off notice, call your utility company **immediately**.

If your utility company is regulated by the MPSC, you cannot have your heat shut-off while you are waiting for the credit.

Who do you call for help?

2-1-1 is a free and confidential phone service is available 24 hours a day and will provide information and referrals for agencies in your community that can assist you with your utilities, food, housing, employment, childcare, transportation, and more.

The MPSC staff can assist if you are having difficulty resolving issues with your utility company. Call toll free, 800-292-9555, or write to:

**Michigan Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, Michigan 48909**

or online at: www.michigan.gov/mpsc

The contents of this document are valid at the time of publication and may be subject to change.